

Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough Joint Parish Council

Sotterley Chapel Cemetery Regulations

Reviewed 17 November 2021

Grave Space

- The burial area will be determined by Parish Council in consultation with the next of kin/funeral directors, unless an exclusive right of burial has been granted.
- Double depth graves are not allowed
- Side by side graves are allowable
- No other part of the grave can be raised above ground level.

Memorials

- A Memorial and inscription/further inscriptions, is allowable after payment of the prescribed fee and is subject to approval of the Parish Council.
- A Headstone, plaque, desk, tablet, vase, may be placed at head of grave only. Max height above ground is 1070mm (42 inches)
- Material for the base of the headstone must be same as the headstone
- Memorials must be made of natural stone, granite or marble. Memorials must have a matt finish, gloss finishes are not allowable.
- Memorials are NOT to be made of Glass, porcelain, plastic, artificial stone, concrete, polystyrene, terracotta, or any other material that is in the opinion of the Parish Council an unsuitable material.
- Memorials must be erected in strict accordance with the size and design approved by the Burial Authority, by a mason who is an Approved Contractor and in accordance with the National Association of Memorial Masons Code of working practice.
- Memorials must be secured into the ground using a fixing system that has been approved by the burial authority and must be fixed in line with adjacent memorials
- Provision may be made on the base of the memorial for the reception of a metal flower vase or vases.
- Kerb sets, corner posts and linking chains are not allowed.
- A wooden cross may remain for a period not exceeding 12 months from the date of interment
- If a memorial is found to be in a dangerous condition the Burial Authority has a responsibility to make the memorial safe by either securing in upright position or lowering it to the ground and then advising the registered owner if known. It is the responsibility of the registered owner to contact a stonemason and pay for reinstatement works.
- Grave furniture that is a risk to public safety, impedes the maintenance of the cemetery, or is incongruous with its surroundings will not be allowed.
- All memorials are at the sole risk of the owners and the Burial Authority shall not be responsible for any damage/ breakage which may occur to the memorial
- Unauthorised grave surrounds are not allowable and may be removed by the Parish Council.

Floral and other Tributes

- No garden plants, trees or shrubs should be planted on graves
- No flower or memorial tribute to be placed outside the individual grave allocated.
- Grass cover must be retained on the grave but this may be tended.
- Glass receptacles are not to be used on any grave or within the chapel yard.
- Artificial flowers and foliage are not allowed.
- Wind chimes are not allowed.
- Lights or other forms of illumination are not allowed.

Note:

The Parish Council acting as the Burial Authority reserves the right to tend and/or maintain the graves in the cemetery at its discretion.